



01-24-03

1754

Date: January 23, 2003 Label No. EV178735965US

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Ashley Smith

Name (Print)

Ashley Smith

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Martin C. GREEN

Application No.: 09/730,708

Filed: December 6, 2000

Group Art Unit: 1754

Examiner: HENDRICKSON, Stuart L.

For: PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR PRODUCING CARBON BLACKS

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

January 23, 2003

Sir:

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated October 23, 2002, for which the Examiner has set a three-month period for response, thus making the response due on or before January 23, 2003.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the following amended claims for the pending claims with the same numbers in the above-identified application. (A version of the amended claims with markings to show the changes made is also attached.)

1. (Amended) A process for producing carbon black comprising: introducing a fluid stream to sheath a process stream downstream from introduction of a feedstock into the process stream.

3. (Amended) The process of claim 2 wherein the fluid stream has a swirl pattern.